

New York Tribune.

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What Has the Murphy Ticket to Do with Real Democracy?

The managers of the McCall campaign will have ample cause to regret that Representative John J. Fitzgerald ever tried to demonstrate to his Democratic colleagues in the House that "Tammany is only a nickname." It wasn't worth while to try to throw dust in the eyes of the Democratic politicians at Washington. They have long looked upon Tammany with the cold disdain which a family usually shows for an offensive black sheep or a run-down and importunate poor relation. From the Washington point of view any calamity happening to Tammany would be classed as a friendly dispensation of Providence.

Here, however, there are Democrats who have apparently not waked up to the fact that they are putting themselves in the list of the defuncted politicians when they associate with Tammany. They complacently vote for candidates whose names are taken out of Murphy's hat and think that by so doing they are maintaining regular relations with the national party. It is time that that crude notion should be challenged, and Mr. Fitzgerald's attack on John Purroy Mitchell, the most conspicuous Democratic federal official in this city, for daring to accept an anti-Tammany nomination for Mayor is bound to make thousands of hitherto listless and indifferent Democrats consider whether Mr. Mitchell is not, after all, the real Democrat, fighting for the success of Democratic principles, and McCall, Murphy and Fitzgerald only imitation Democrats, cloaking under the Democratic name Tammany's nefarious operations for private plunder.

Mr. Mitchell says truly that Tammany Hall is "the Frankenstein of the Democratic party in New York." It is a monstrous machine which has gotten out of the control of the Democratic voters and is using them for its own profit. Croker blurted out the guiding principle of the leaders of the organization when he said it was his custom "to work for my own pocket all the time." That custom is still honored in the strictest observance by the great lights of the Hall, and there was never a better opportunity offered to self-respecting Democrats to decide between an independent Democrat, honored by the national administration and enjoying the sympathy of Democrats in all the other states, and the representative of a perverted system of Democracy only for what's in it, appealing for support as the candidate of Murphy and the Delmonico Council of Eight.

Mr. Fitzgerald's outbreak was most opportune and Mr. Mitchell's answer to it will lead to a campaign of education which ought to rebuke forever the insolence of the assertion that Murphy's private and personal city ticket is entitled to every Democrat's support.

Another Version of "Public Be Damned."

A peculiarly contemptible method of defeating the public will is being practised in New Jersey, not by some soulless corporation nor by a political overlord, but by minor elective officers who are supposed to be very close to the people, to wit, the county boards of freeholders.

Some time ago a numerous signed petition, as prescribed by law, was presented to the Union County board, asking that at the coming election a referendum on the question of adopting the merit system in the civil service be submitted to the people. Under the law it was the duty of the board to place the referendum upon the official ballot. The board, however, deliberately postponed action upon it until a meeting to be held on the very last day on which such action could be taken, and then saw to it that no quorum was present and therefore no meeting could be held. Then yesterday, when it was known to be a week too late, the board passed the belated resolution and asked the County Clerk to put the question on the ballots, knowing, of course, that according to a decision of a Supreme Court justice that could not be done. It will thus appear to be impossible to have the matter voted upon this year.

A similar scheme was tried two years ago in Hudson County, but failed because the petitioners, appreciating in advance the devilry of the local ring, secured a mandamus to compel action in time. An unwarranted faith in the greater respectability of the Union County functionaries has resulted in the success of the scurvy trick in that bailiwick. And the grilling feature of the case is that there seems to be no way of punishing the unfaithful officials for dereliction of duty. Evidently "Jersey justice" needs a sharp tuning up.

The New Arctic Land.

It is scarcely possible that the newly discovered Nicholas I Land is "as large as Greenland," for there is no such unknown area on the map. Greenland is about 1,900 miles long and 800 miles wide. The point at which the new land was reached is about 60 miles due north of Cape Chelmsford, and extends, so far as surveyed, not more than 200 miles northward. To be as large as Greenland the island would have to stretch clear across the Pole well over toward Point Barrow.

Nevertheless, there is room in the Arctic Ocean between the Taimur Peninsula and the Alaskan coast for a large island or group of islands, and observations of tidal currents have long indicated that some such land existed. The reported discovery lies almost midway between Franz Josef Land and the New Siberia Islands. Thence it can scarcely extend far to the westward, but it may reach eastward and north of east for some hundreds of miles without entering the region which has been explored by voyagers by the way of Bering Strait.

The political and economic value of the new land will be nil. Its geographic and oceanographic

interest to the scientific world will be great, and it will make to the polar map one of the most striking additions this generation has seen.

For a Smaller School Board.

Only a person of the same mental foggiess as our present Board of Education will fail to be impressed by the plea of Professor Goodnow and Dr. Howe for a smaller board.

As at present constituted the board is a hopelessly unwieldy body, endeavoring to meddle with a mass of detailed problems for which it has neither the organization nor the capacity. The recommendations of the present investigators are sharp and accurate. The board should be divested of its administrative functions and should confine its attention to the "larger problems of legislation and surveillance" contemplated by the charter. It should be greatly reduced in size.

The present recommendation is that the board should number eight members, three of whom shall represent the city at large and have three votes each, the remaining five representing the boroughs and having votes similar to the voting strength of the members of the Board of Estimate. The proposal for their selection is that the Mayor shall appoint the three members at large and the Borough Presidents the five others.

This is a simple, concrete plan, with much in its favor. Whether it is the best that can be devised remains for debate and discussion to determine. It is certainly progress in the right direction.

Canal Opening and Canal Tolls.

The flooding of the entire isthmian canal is a reminder that the question of discriminating tolls, thus far academic, will soon become intensely practical. It must be obvious that that question ought to be definitively settled, to the satisfaction or at least the conviction of all concerned, before a single toll paying vessel passes through the canal.

It is not disclosed upon what ground "The London Times" reports that President Wilson has come to the conclusion that the British view of the matter is correct and that "all nations" in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty includes the United States. There is little doubt, however, that the ground is ample and that the information is correct, and it may unhesitatingly be added that if Mr. Wilson has reached that conclusion he has done wisely and well.

The United States is winning everlasting renown and praise by its successful completion of a task that for four centuries has been the world's desire. It cannot afford to have the splendor of that achievement tarnished by even a single act of dubious rectitude.

Standing by the Ship.

If you are awakened in the night in midocean to learn that your ship is afire or in collision, what is the wise thing to do if you have a choice—stand by the ship or get away in a lifeboat? This is a fine old puzzle of the seas, and the disaster to the Volturino brings it to mind in peculiarly vivid form.

There is no question of the real seaman's decision. Your old salt stands by the ship till the last gasp. With the skipper this is partly a matter of duty, to be sure. But in every plain seaman's heart there is a stout preference for the old ship, however battered or helpless or wave swept. At bottom this is probably due to a truth of the sea, that a vessel is more than a mere batch of wood or steel, and possesses a vitality and a power of resistance of almost uncanny force. The case of many a wallowing ship is that of the sick man who, given up for dying by all his doctors, lives on to spite them.

The wreck of the Volturino is a strange example precisely to the point. The cowards who went rammering over the rail into the ship's boats seem all to have been lost. Those who stood by the ship were saved. The leaky, blazing hull kept off complete disaster just long enough to save practically all of those on her decks.

There is no need to mention the terrible lesson of the Titanic to prove that faith in a great vessel is not always justified. But the old and honored rule of standing by the ship has a sound source and much good sense behind it.

Let Youth Be Served.

Our English friends, just now rather needlessly alarmed over the prowess of their nation in sports, have reached one rather hasty conclusion. The chief trouble with English sports is old age! Let the boys have a chance and all will be well. Or, as one Englishman puts this view in a letter to a London weekly:

There is too much reactionary and unimaginative stodginess, middle-aged out of the comfortable, and consequent lack of youthful enthusiasm, which is stifled by the general easy-going averseness to the really strenuous—so painfully in contrast to the American desire to excel, to get on, to arrive, to get there.

We seem nowadays so listless in contrast, too, with the French, whose insolently logical courage, inventive imagination, and, above all, dash, will make them in the near future most dangerous rivals in games long neglected through super-civilization. Carpenter, Outmet & Co. are but a forecast of the future of modern French youth in sports, whose general cult of fresh air and exercise is in contrast to our pallid, pipe-smoking nuts.

What we need is the more rapid evolution of our boys to youthhood and up-to-date self-sufficiency; more of the alertness of youth in our councils, too. Let youth be served—and serve!

Unfortunately, however, mere fewness of years seems not to be the real point at all. Veterans, "old men" in their sport, rubbed elbows with brilliant youths in a certain contest hereabout not so long ago, and middle age, if anything, had the edge on youth. The record of every other sport is about the same.

The real point seems to be not so much youth as a youthful spirit. When a veteran can keep the resolve and brilliancy of his youth and sustain them by a wisdom born of long experience he is the hardest of opponents to best. We say this with every due obeisance to Messrs. McLoughlin, Outmet and Bush and only to make it clear that "youth" need not end with the teens, but is rather more potent than ever when it lasts clear through the thirties.

Unfair to the Railroads.

The country has a right to congratulate itself on the success of the parcel post experiment. Since this service was enlarged and modernized receipts from it have greatly increased, and by the end of the next fiscal year the Postoffice Department expects to have, thanks to the new revenue, a surplus of more than \$10,000,000.

One reason for the jump in receipts is that the government does not pay any more for the transportation of the present volume of fourth class mail matter than it used to pay before the limit on the weight of packages was raised and the rates of postage were reduced. The railroads have to

carry the extra matter without extra compensation, since they are paid by the year and the rates of payment are readjusted only once every four years.

That arrangement is a manifest injustice to the railroads, which have hard times enough contending with increases of wages, higher cost of supplies, bigger taxes and other heavy charges added to operating expenses. The government ought not to expect the railroads to contribute directly to the postal surplus by carrying two or three times as much fourth class matter as formerly for the same fixed lump sum. It is not fair to ask the railroads to work for nothing in order to help the government make a substantial profit on handling fourth class mail. Some of that profit should be used to pay for the additional services which are now exacted on a cost free basis.

It would have been a raw, gusty day on which to turn a delinquent leaseholder out on the sidewalk.

President Wilson says that the twice-a-week Cabinet meetings are to continue. We judge from this announcement that the Chautauqua season is officially at an end.

Lack of fire extinguishers on shipboard is as blameworthy as lack of lifeboats.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"Don't Pick Up the Pickles." This sign in large letters, displayed in an uptown delicatessen shop, has caused customers to wonder at the meaning of this alliterative masterpiece. The owner of the place, when pressed to explain, did so. "It's to keep peoples from squeezing der pickles," he said. Then he added that a man keeping a boarding house nearby had always insisted on picking out the pickles he wanted, and when any were soft, placing them back in the brine. Several women, on seeing him do so, threatened to notify the Department of Health. Now the lid is on the pickle jar. Recently Commissioner Lederle issued an order that pickles were to be kept under cover; that is, they were to be kept in jars with tops on them.

Farmer (in position of absolute safety, at "square leg") to golfer who has just driven—"Ere, young feller, yer didn't ought to 'it your ball when I'm as close as this!"

Golfer—Do you know anything at all about the game of golf?

Farmer—Yes, I do. I was once 'it in the stomach.

Punch.

THE REVISED VERSION.

Yankee Doodle's daughter came, Tariff bill forgetting, And she thought it was a shame, When, instead of petting,

Yankee Doodle Doodle Do, Yankee Doodle Dandy, Snatched the feather from her hat— Don't you think him sandy? G. B. M.

"It is better to have a light purse than a heavy heart," quoted the Wise Guy.

"Yes, but it is still better to split the difference," added the Simple Mug.—Philadelphia Record.

"An epidemic is now raging in Russia," says a Moscow letter, "for which scientists have no remedy—self-destruction. Its victims are to a great extent young men and women students. In the last twelve months 600 students committed suicide." Commenting on the gruesome fact, Leonid Andrejew, the novelist, said: "There is, in my opinion, nothing wrong in taking this leap from misery when one knows that his struggles are in vain and that the gates of happiness are hopelessly closed. Where suicide is looked upon as a crime the belief in personal bondage still exists, and the state regards him who endeavors to escape thralldom by the act like a soldier who would desert." In the United States the recently published statistics make Johnstown, Penn., and San Francisco conspicuous. The latter city leads all places for suicides, with 19,12 to 100,000 inhabitants, while Johnstown comes last on the list, with an average of 1.7. The table shows also that there were fewer suicides in Manhattan and The Bronx than in Brooklyn.

A quack doctor was holding forth about his "medicines" to a rural audience.

"Yes, gentlemen," he said, "I have sold these pills for over twenty-five years and never heard a word of complaint. Now, what does that prove?"

From a voice in the crowd came:

"That dead men tell no tales."—Tit-Bits.

FOR MY COUNTRY'S GOOD



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

THE CHURCH AND POLITICS

A Reader Protests Against the Campaign Sermon.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: At the approach of election time every year ministers who profess to preach the Gospel ignore the injunction contained in the Latin sentence, "Ne sutor ultra crepidam," by converting their pulpits into political rostrums and their churches into debating clubs, much to the dissatisfaction of a large number of people who attend services for the worship of God, and not to listen to dissertations on political subjects.

If those overzealous clergymen would confine their efforts to preaching the doctrine of "Peace on earth and good will to men" as expounded and inculcated by the Divine Founder of Christianity instead of launching acrimonious fulminations against those whose political leanings are at variance with their own they would be more successful than they are in convincing the skeptical and the unregenerated that they have a definite mission and a religious purpose in life.

There is none of the great parties whose members are all dishonest; nor is there any whose protagonists are all angels—minus the wings—so that no political party or organization has a monopoly of the virtues or the vices. What we need in political harangues is not that vilification of opponents which is a disgraceful feature of all our elections, but clear and explicit definitions of the issues before the public—always bearing in mind that no party has a rational d'etre unless it can offer something more tangible than a mere personality as an apology for its existence. Abuse of opponents and vague phrases, such as "for righteousness," etc., which are merely empty platitudes, are not sufficiently specific, have no particular force or value, and appeal only to the hysterical and superficial.

In all our elections the "issues" seem to be created for the occasion, as they rarely present themselves, the facility with which new and startling theories of government can be promulgated having been demonstrated very sensationally by Mr. Roosevelt himself.

JOHN JOSEPH O'DRISCOLL
New York, Oct. 11, 1913.

MRS. PANKHURST'S PROFITS

Should America Help to Support Her Campaign of Militancy?

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: There is an aspect of the question of the admission of Mrs. Pankhurst which I have not seen referred to. She comes avowedly to raise money to take to England to carry on her campaign of arson and destruction. Great Britain is a friendly nation. Ought we to permit our people to contribute money which we know will be used to injure her? Suppose Mrs. Pankhurst were our criminal and had escaped to Canada, and the authorities there permitted her to raise funds to be sent here to burn our homes, how would we feel about it?

It is said her offence is political. If that be true, it would be political if she were to kill Mr. Asquith for the cause. It would be a difference in degree but not in kind. Are we ready to go that far? JAMES H. HANSCOMB.
Boonton, N. J., Oct. 12, 1913.

MR. BIRD AND FUSION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The mix-up in which Francis W. Bird, county chairman of the Progressive party, finds himself with Mr. Prendergast is only another example of the fact that in attempting to make a fusion frame-up out of hostile elements Mr. Bird has undertaken a great deal more than he can carry out. He already has antagonized a large number of the members of his own party by weakly admitting that he could not find in the 194,000 Progressive voters of the city a man whom he cared to run at the head of the municipal ticket and

by participating in the nomination of John Purroy Mitchell. Now he has the Republicans hot under the collar by failing, as the Controller asserts, to keep faith with them in the matter of representation on the fusion ticket. All that remains for Mr. Bird to do in further injury to the cause of John Purroy Mitchell is to drive out those good Wilson Democrats from the fusion ranks.

F. W.
New York, Oct. 10, 1913.

INCONSISTENCY OF EMMELINE

Mrs. Pankhurst the Most Audacious Lawbreaker of the Century.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: That the basis of any government is force; that its stability rests upon its physical ability to enforce its laws; that immunity from service in executing the law would make most women irresponsible voters—such are statements which always bring forth vigorous denials from suffragists.

Yet, they are all true statements, and, by actions which speak louder than words, Mrs. Pankhurst and her gentle cohorts have attested their truth again and again. When cool reason turned down her thumb against woman suffrage in England, Mrs. Pankhurst resorted to force. She knows as well as any of us, and better than some, that governments do rest on force, and she realizes that, if she could command enough force, she could overthrow the existing government. Oh, that one little word "if"! Why does Mrs. Pankhurst resort to force in her extremity? Her actions confirm the "antis" in their belief.

The lady is inconsistent in another respect. She and all suffragists strenuously advocate the great power which, they say, rests in the ballot and in the law. No one else ever attributed to the ballot the marvellous powers which the suffragists claim is vested therein.

Women, once they obtain the vote, say the suffragists, can legislate all mankind into holiness. Sin and poverty will no longer be among us in that blessed day. That hoary evil which moderns term the "white slave traffic" will be wiped out—in that blessed day when women vote. Social and economic problems, over which the wisest minds of all ages have pondered, will be solved at once—when women vote. In short, girls, just-up and follow Emmeline to the ballot box, and we will build up, by our votes, a new heaven and a new earth. Funny nobody ever tried it before. It's so simple a solution for all our troubles!

So much for the "big talk." What of the actions which speak louder than words and contradict them? While advocating the power of law to eradicate evil, Mrs. Pankhurst flouts that very law; she makes a jest of it, and English law is today a joke among us because of her. Yes, the greatest and most audacious lawbreaker of the century, the lawless Emmeline Pankhurst, is coming among us to preach the power of the ballot and the law to eradicate evil. It is to laugh.

MARJORIE DORMAN.
New York, Oct. 7, 1913.

AN ANTI-FEMINIST EXPLODES

The Crime of Motherhood Arouses His Indignation.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Now, since the Board of Education has at last had the courage to take a definite stand on the subject of married teachers taking time from their duties to bear children, we have read and shall continue to read editorials and letters from our newspaper men and other feminists whose one belief on the woman question is that women should have everything they want, no matter how great the cost or how injurious to the great mass of the people at large. There are two women whose names have been before the public in connection with this married women teachers' agitation. One, Mrs. Peltoote, lives in a beautiful home on St. Nicholas Terrace, and she received

a salary of \$2,000 a year at the time of her dismissal. The other, Mrs. Edgel, and her husband each receive a salary of over \$2,500 a year. There are many thousands of men in this great city each of whom is supporting a wife and not one but many children on an income of much less than \$2,000 a year, and many thousands of men under similar obligations, but out of employment, would be glad to earn half of that sum during the next year.

Now, I beg leave to state a few propositions which may startle the average twentieth century feminist.

The first proposition is that the old-fashioned mother, who devotes all her time to taking care of her children, is just as noble and just as worthy of the care of the state and the consideration of those departments of our government which employ help as the wage earning woman, married or single—even the wage earning mother, who devotes only a small part of her time to her children and whose husband is able to support her!

The second proposition is that the child of an honest man, who does an honest day's work to support and educate that child, is worthy of as much consideration as the child of a wage earning woman.

The third proposition is that a man who honestly labors to support his wife and educate his children is of as much value to the community as a mother, and especially is such a man as valuable as a wage earning mother whose husband is able to support her.

Now, when the infatuated devotes to woman-worship recover from the shock resulting from reading these startling heretical dogmas, let them consider the following proposition:

The first attack on wifehood and motherhood in recent years was made, not by the Board of Education, but by the women teachers themselves, in their equal pay law, under which the wife of a man teacher, if she devotes all her time to her home and children, is to be punished for being a wife and mother by being forced by law to subsist on less than half the income which is presented by law (not the law of economics, of supply and demand, but a woman-made statute law) to her wage earning sister in the same station in life. We can congratulate ourselves that the women teachers have not yet secured legislation making it a penalty for a woman to marry and have children, punishable by heavy fines, the proceeds of which are to be paid to wage earning women as rewards for their superiority and independence. Such a law would differ from the equal pay law only in the manner in which this result is achieved. Of course, there is nothing "immoral" in punishing women for marrying or becoming mothers when wage earning women gain what the victims lose; but it is positively "immoral" to prevent a woman who earns a fat salary (keeping a man out of the job, and a good income, from taking the city's purse for her own purposes, according to the prevalent newspaper feminism.

FRIEND OF THE WOMAN OF THE HOME.
New York, Oct. 11, 1913.

TEXAS MODESTY.

From The Houston Post.
Expressing his regret that he did not remain in Congress, Old Billy Sulzer said he was tempted out by his ambition to be round out his career as "governor of the greatest state in the Union." Doesn't Old Billy know that he is not eligible to the governorship of Texas?

WHEN WOMEN VOTE.

From The Sacramento Union.
The primary election in New York City called out less than 25 per cent of the polled vote and cost the city \$2 a vote. In San Francisco 50 per cent of the registered vote went to the polls at the primary.

OR FATHER A CURRENCY BILL

From The Washington Post.
Anyhow, Yuan Shih-kai won't know what real trouble is until he has to defend a new tariff as the finest ever made.